

Name _____ Colons



When to Use a Colon

A colon can be used:

- To introduce a list, when the list follows an independent clause.
- To introduce a quotation when the quotation is not part of an independent clause.
- To introduce an explanation when the explanation follows an independent clause.

DIRECTIONS: Rewrite each of the following sentences, using a colon if appropriate.

1. My mother wanted a lot of things from the store, milk, eggs, butter, and sugar.

2. I was surprised when Ellen said that she wasn't going skiing.

3. I think Thoreau said it best, "If one does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears, a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he heard, however measured or far away."

4. Ken always responded by saying, "That's not my department."

5. I am exhausted, my neighbor's dog barked all night and I didn't get any sleep.